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The Urban District of Litherland.



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1947.

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

YEAR 1947.

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR P. T. CLUSKEY, J.P.

Chairman of the Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR A. DICK.

Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR J. EATON.

Councillors:

H. BELL.	N. LONSDALE.
L. CHORLEY.	W. M. LLOYD.
P. T. CLUSKEY.	J. L. PARRY.
A. DICK.	R. RYDER.
J. EATON.	J. H. WALL.
W. GREGG.	W. WALL.

Medical Officer of Health:

A. J. W. CUNNINGHAM, M.A., M.D. (Cantab.), D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

H. HARRISON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
A. LAVELLE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

TOWN HALL,
LITHERLAND,
LIVERPOOL, 21.

9th December, 1947.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

My thanks are due to the Staff of the Department for their help and to the members of the Health Committee for their sustained interest in all that concerns the health of the district.

Yours obediently,

A. J. W. CUNNINGHAM,
Medical Officer of Health.

PARTICULARS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
 HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947.

1.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	818
Population—Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,987
Estimated, Mid 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,590
No. of inhabited houses (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,464
,, ,, ,, on Rate Books, Dec., 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,251
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£119,542
General Rate, 1946/47	...	...	...	...	...	...	16/9
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£476

There is no special report to make on the influence of any particular occupation on public health.

UNEMPLOYMENT.—There are no separate figures at the Labour Exchange as to the extent of the unemployment in the district.

BIRTHS.

The number of children born in the district during 1947 was 557; 257 males and 270 females. This gives a Birth Rate of 27·0.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths during the year 1947 was 232; 115 males and 117 females. This gives a Death Rate of 11·2. 118 Deaths of Litherland residents occurred outside the district.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year 33 children died who, at the time of their death, had not reached the age of one year.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

During the year, there were 2 deaths from Whooping Cough, no deaths from Diphtheria, two deaths from Measles, and no deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Fever. This gives a Zymotic Death Rate of 0.53.

There were seven deaths from Diarrhæal Diseases under the age of two years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births	Legitimate ...	537	275	262
	Illegitimate ...	20	12	8
	Total ...	557	287	270
	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1947 ...	27.0		
Stillbirths	... ... ...	10	6	4
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	17		
Deaths	... .. ...	232	115	117
	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	11.2		
Deaths from puerperal causes—			Death-rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births	
Puerperal and post-bortive sepsis	...	Nil		Nil
Other maternal causes ...	...	1		1.76
		—		—
Total ...	...	1		1.76

*Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	59
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	57		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	100		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	40
,, , Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	2
,, , Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	2
,, , Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	7

LITHERELAND U.D.C.

Population	Per 1,000 of estimated population.			Maternal mortality rate.			Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total (live and still) births		
For birth-rate,							7
For death-rates							
Mean of 5 years, 1942-1946	... 22.6	... 12.1	... 0.79	... 1.47	... 0.44	... 0.42	... 73
Year—							
1946	... 23.2	... 11.9	... 0.76	... 1.43	... 2.20	... 2.12	... 68
1947	... 27.0*	... 11.2	... 0.53	... 1.94	... 1.79	... 1.76	... 59
<i>Increase or decrease in 1947 on—</i>							
5 years' average, 1942-1946	... +4.4	... -0.9	... -0.26	... +0.47	... +1.35	... +1.34	... -1.4
Previous year	... +3.8	... -0.7	... -0.23	... +0.51	... -0.41	... -0.36	... -9

* 1947 adjusted death rate (comparability factor, /) = / per 1,000.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Age at date of Inoculation		1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—6	6—7	7—8	8—9	9—10	10—11	11—12	12—13	13—14	14—15	15 years and over	Age not known	Totals
Under 1 year ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
1—2 years ...		11	6	2	5	9	10	6	21	37	96	51	23	31	41	37	3	118	144	115	209	189	118	Under five years 976	—	—						
2—3 „ „ „		21	5	9	11	23	30	86	55	10	20	10	20	15	15	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
3—4 „ „ „		22	9	8	1	11	23	30	63	31	63	59	7	11	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
4—5 „ „ „		30	10	12	16	10	26	31	30	31	63	59	55	35	5	19	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
5—6 „ „ „		47	38	29	30	31	31	30	31	31	63	59	55	35	5	19	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
6—7 „ „ „		51	17	16	29	14	35	41	46	38	38	1	19	11	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
7—8 „ „ „		41	24	14	13	10	11	27	22	30	30	7	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
8—9 „ „ „		40	40	9	9	9	16	16	24	14	25	6	8	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
9—10 „ „ „		36	31	18	12	12	9	19	16	24	30	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
10—11 „ „ „		55	41	9	8	9	11	21	9	25	8	5	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
11—12 „ „ „		30	37	9	3	4	6	18	8	9	13	8	1	2	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
12—13 „ „ „		21	21	4	4	2	9	9	8	1	8	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
13—14 „ „ „		11	14	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
14—15 „ „ „		—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
15 years and over		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
Age not known		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
Totals		416	294	146	146	135	255	370	547	534	196	354	296	354	4043	4043	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LITHERLAND URBAN DISTRICT, 1947.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
	115	117
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	—
3. Scarlet Fever	...	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	—
5. Diphtheria	...	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	5
7. Other Tuberculosis Diseases	...	2
8. Syphilitic diseases	...	1
9. Influenza	...	—
10. Measles	...	2
11. Ac. polio-mpcl: and polio-enceph	...	—
12. Ac. inf. enceph.	...	—
13. Cancer of buc.cav. & oesoph. (M.), uterus (F.)	—	...
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	3
15. Cancer of breast	...	—
16. Cancer of all other sites	...	16
17. Diabetes	...	1
18. Intra-cran: vasc: lesions	...	5
19. Heart Disease	...	24
20. Other diseases of circ. system	...	6
21. Bronchitis	...	16
22. Pneumonia	...	7
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	1
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	2
26. Appendicitis	...	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	...	—
28. Nephritis	...	1
29. Puer. and post-abort. sepsis	...	—
30. Other maternal causes	...	—
31. Premature Birth	...	2
32. Con. mal: birth inj. infant dis:	...	5
33. Suicide	...	—
34. Road Traffic acc.	...	2
35. Other violent causes	...	3
36. All other causes	...	7
All causes ...	115	117

S.D. 55.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1947.

(*Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.*)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London. Adminis- trative County.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births—	*			
Live Births	...	20.5†	23.3	22.2
Still Births	...	0.50†	0.62	0.54
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths—				
All Causes	...	12.0†	13.0	11.9
{ Typhoid and				
Paratyphoid Fevers	...	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	...	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	0.02	0.03	0.02
Diphtheria	...	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	...	0.09	0.09	0.08
Smallpox...	...	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	...	0.01	0.02	0.01
Notifications—				
Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population				
Typhoid Fever	...	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	...	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	0.05	0.06	0.05
Scarlet Fever	...	1.37	1.54	1.37
Whooping Cough	...	2.22	2.41	2.02
Diphtheria	...	0.13	0.15	0.14
Erysipelas	...	0.19	0.21	0.18
Smallpox...	...	0.00	0.00	0.01
Measles	...	9.41	9.13	9.58
Pneumonia	...	0.79	0.89	0.68
Rates per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births:—				
Notifications				
Puerperal Fever...	...	7.16	8.99	6.27
Puerperal Pyrexia	...			{ 1.21 6.91
England and Wales				
Maternal Mortality—				
No. 140. Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141. Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147. Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142-6, 148-150 Other Maternal Causes.	
0.10	0.06	0.16	0.85	
Abortion.	Mortality per million women aged 15-45.		England & Wales.	
No. 140 with Sepsis	...	9	No. 141 without Sepsis	...

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 total population.

** Including Puerperal fever.

2.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

HOSPITALS.

There are no Hospitals in the district, but the Council have agreements with the County Borough of Bootle for infectious disease.

SMALLPOX.

Cases are removed under the above agreement to Liverpool, a retaining fee of £2 per 1,000 of population being paid.

The OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES are removed to the City of Liverpool and West Lancs. Infectious Disease Hospitals, no retaining fee being paid. The patients are not required to contribute towards the cost of treatment, and the accommodation is not limited.

No action has been taken or advised with the object of securing that the Hospital accommodation is utilised to the best extent, or to shorten the period of stay of uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever. Cases have been treated at home where there have been facilities for isolation and suitable nursing.

No new methods have been adopted for the selection of individual cases for which admission to Hospitals is most imperative, nor any new decision as to the admission of cases of diseases such as Measles or Whooping Cough.

No arrangements are in force for hospitalisation of minor infectious disease, such as Measles. While the need for hospital treatment arises but rarely in these cases, it is occasionally imperative, and when this occurs difficulty is found in obtaining admission of the patient to hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council, the Tuberculosis Dispensary being situated at "Ellesmere," Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool, Bootle and Crosby Hospitals are available.

MIDWIVES.

There are three Midwives on the County Council Register and practising in the district. There are no Health Visitors, Nurses or Midwives employed by or assisted by the Local Authority.

GENERAL MEDICAL. GENERAL SURGICAL.

These cases are removed to the General Hospitals of Liverpool, Bootle and Waterloo.

CHILDREN.

The above Hospitals are used, also the Liverpool Children's Hospital.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool Voluntary Hospitals.

There are no Poor Law or other Institutions in the district.

MATERNITY MORTALITY.

No special arrangements have been made for the investigation of maternal deaths, and cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia; this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious diseases the Motor Ambulances of the City of Liverpool and West Lancs. Infectious Disease Hospitals.

(b) For non-infectious cases, accident and maternity cases the Motor Ambulances of:—Lancashire Public Assistance Committee, Merseyside Hospitals (1d. in the £ Subscribers) Ambulance, and the Council Ambulance, joint with Crosby.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council. The Clinic is situated at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland, and provides for:—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE. Consultation and treatment.

SCHOOL CLINIC. Dental, orthopædic, ophthalmic and minor ailments.

The times of opening are as follows:—

Monday	...	...	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday	...	...	10-0 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Wednesday	...	...	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Thursday	...	...	9-15 a.m. to 12-15 p.m.;	2 to 4 p.m.
Friday	...	...	9-0 a.m. to 12 noon.	

There is no Artificial Light Clinic; or Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children in the district.

A Day Nursery was opened on April 10th, 1943, to accommodate 50 children. It has proved a success and met a wartime need of some urgency. Consequently, an extension was opened on the 21st June, 1944, for 40 children. The Nursery is open from Monday to Friday at 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children of the age of 6 months to 5 years are accepted.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Two District Nurses (Litherland District Nursing Association) visit on request of the Medical Practitioners by arrangement with the District Nursing Association. There is no financial obligation to the Council.

DOMESTIC HOME HELPS SCHEME.

The County Council have delegated their powers under the above Scheme to the Local Authority. Three part-time helpers have been engaged during the year to give assistance to maternity nurses, and to persons sick or infirm; ten cases took advantage of the Scheme during the year, against five in 1946.

The Local Authority contributed to the Merseyside Hospitals (1d. in the £ Scheme) in connection with the Council employees, also to the Bootle General Hospital and the Waterloo General Hospital.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Health Posters have been displayed, and frequently changed, on the late Empire Marketing Boards.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Sputum.—These specimens are sent direct to Lancashire County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary, by Medical Practitioners.

Blood, Throat Swabs, etc.—Sent direct by Medical Practitioners to Liverpool University, Bacteriological Department.

Milk.—Ten samples were submitted to Liverpool University.

3.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is obtained from the City of Liverpool; the chief source is Lake Vyrnwy in Wales. The water is excellent in quality, and there is a constant supply for all purposes. The number of houses supplied direct from the public mains is approximately 5,251. There has been no analysis during the year. Complaints of discolouration and sediment were reported to Liverpool Corporation, and received prompt attention. The whole of the dwelling-houses are supplied from the public water mains direct to the houses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The sewage (which is dealt with on the combined system) is discharged without treatment into the River Mersey.

The Rimrose Brook Drainage Scheme is in progress, which in time should ameliorate conditions in the lower lying part of the district, which are subject to flooding.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams and no new works have been established to cause pollution.

Closet accommodation at the end of 1947:—

Privy Middens—

No. of Middens	...	...	...	...	One.
No. of Closets attached to these Middens...					One.
No. of Pail Closets	...	...	...		Nil.
No. of Houses with Fresh Water Closets...					5,250
No. of Waste Water Closets	...	...			Nil.

SCAVENGING.

This work was transferred during 1942 from the Surveyor's Department to the Health Department, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, and is working satisfactorily. Refuse is conveyed by motor vehicles to the Council's tips, situated in Beach Road, Litherland.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1947.

No. of premises visited	...	...	...	...	...	2,425
Defects or Nuisances—						
No. discovered	...	...	...	...	...	3,967
No. abated	...	...	...	...	...	3,752
No. of Notices served—						
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	2,349
Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Legal Proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

OFFICES AND SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No statutory action has been necessary; sanitary defects, etc., have been carried out as required.

CAMPING SITES.

There were no licences issued for camping sites during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools within the District.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Fifty houses were disinfected during the year; 10 Council houses and 40 other houses, by means of spraying with D.D.T. in Zaldecide and sulphur candles. One hundred and forty-one houses were disinfected for cockroaches, fleas, ants, crickets, flies, bees, silver fish and wood lice.

Snails in the back passages were treated with salt.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition and the water supply of the schools in the district is generally satisfactory. Insanitary trough closets at one school have been reported on during the year. The schools have been disinfected after the holidays. There was no closing of schools as a result of infection during the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

There are no Common Lodging Houses; Houses let in Lodgings; Tents, Vans or Sheds, or Underground Sleeping Rooms in the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are three Tanneries and ten Fish and Chip Potato premises in the district; these are inspected from time to time.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There is only one Private Slaughter-house in the district, and this is a Registered Slaughter-house.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no premises in the district in which Rag Flock is manufactured or sold.

CANAL BOATS.

Number inspected: None.

4.—Housing.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1947.

There were 399 houses built during the year; 49 were temporary houses, and 136 B.I.S.F. houses.

HOUSING APPLICATION FORMS, 1947.

Housing Application Forms for Council houses are continually being received, both from inside and outside the district.

The number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year was approximately 683, the number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year was 133, and 288 cases of overcrowding have been relieved during the year. There is still a serious shortage of houses for all classes of people in the district.

5.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milk Shops within the district are periodically inspected, and every effort is being made to produce clean healthy milk.

Ten samples were obtained from persons selling milk within the district, and sent for Bacteriological examination.

“Tubercle Bacilli” was negative in all samples.

Veterinary inspections are carried out if any animal is suspected, or on a sample of milk showing Tubercle Bacilli.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Nineteen samples of milk were submitted to the County Analyst, and one of medicinal paraffin; all samples were reported genuine.

The following 144 samples were obtained in Litherland by the County Sanitary Officer during the year:—

Milk, 112; Bacon, 3; Table Salt, 5; Cooking Salt, 1; Malt Vinegar, 2; Oatmeal, 3; Lard, 2; Gravy Salt, 3; Vinegar (non-brewed), 1; Coffee, 4; Medicinal Paraffin, 1; Ice Cream, 4; Cooking Fat, 2; Rolled Oats, 1.

All these samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

<i>Sample.</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Action taken.</i>
One formal milk.	Deficient 3 per cent. fat.	Further samples obtained.
One informal milk.	Deficient 4.7 per cent. solids-not-fat; contained 3.8 per cent. extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained.
One informal milk.	Deficient 5.8 per cent. solids-not-fat; contained 6.0 per cent. extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained.
One ice-cream.	Contained 0.1 per cent. gelatine.	Vendor notified.
One gravy salt.	No declaration of ingredients on label.	Vendor notified.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The food exposed for sale or prepared in the district has been examined from time to time. The premises and shops have been kept in a cleanly state.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are eight Bakehouses in the district; these are in a sanitary condition, clean and well kept; minor repairs have been attended to.

6.—Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

Three hundred and thirty-two cases of infectious diseases were notified, and forty-seven were removed to Hospital (see Tables of Notifiable Diseases).

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

Immunization against Diphtheria has been undertaken by the Local Authority; this is done at the County Clinic, Linacre Road, Litherland, by arrangement with Private Practitioners on Friday afternoon during school time; 354 cases were completed during the year, each receiving two injections of A.P.T.

Immunization against Diphtheria commenced on 17th May, 1935; during this period 4,669 cases have been immunized in the district, although many reside outside the district. 393 notifications of diphtheria have been received, and of these only 34 had previously been inoculated.

There were no deaths (see chart on Immunization in front of page 7) from diphtheria during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

No return cases were discovered during the year, and there were no deaths from Scarlet Fever.

MALARIA.

There were no cases during the year.

ENTERIC FEVER (INCLUDING PARA-TYPHOID).

There was one case of Para-Typhoid notified during the year.

CANCER.

There were 40 deaths from Cancer, 19 males and 21 females) during the year, as against 28 in 1946. Private Practitioners and Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool City Hospitals for Radium Treatment if necessary.

Death rate from Cancer was 1.47.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been necessary in respect of Tuberculosis employees in the Milk Trade, or to Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925, for removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

GENERAL.

There have been no Primary or Re-Vaccinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

It has not been necessary to close the schools during the year on account of sickness.

There have been no reports made under Article 17 (7) Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, which refers to cases of Plague, Cholera, Smallpox, or any serious outbreak of disease in the district.

INFLUENZA.

There was no severe Influenza Epidemic during the year.

There were no other diseases or cases of sickness which required special attention.

MEASLES.

Measles showed a decrease during the year, 174 cases being notified as against 199 in 1946.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping Cough Prophylactic and Curative Serum has been made available to Medical Practitioners free of charge. This has resulted in arresting the progress of this disease and shortening the period of infectivity; 91 cases were notified during the year.

SCABIES.

Cases in diminishing numbers have been dealt with at home during the year.

DISINFECTION.

There were 127 rooms in 84 houses disinfected during the year by means of Formaldehyde Vapour and Izal (Sprayed) after Infectious Disease, including Tuberculosis. Several articles were disinfected at the Council's Disinfecter (a Washington Lyons Type) situated in the Council's yard, Field Lane.

There is no arrangement for bathing verminous persons, etc.

Disinfestation has been carried out at fifty houses.

Notifiable Diseases, 1947.

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to Hospital, and deaths in Hospital during the year 1947:—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Total Cases at all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.													HOSPITAL		
		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over	Total DEATHS.	Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths Hospital of persons belonging to District	
Smallpox...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	38	...	2	1	1	3	24	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	12	...	
*Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	16	1	...	...	1	...	5	2	2	5	...	...	...	...	*20	...	
Enteric Fever, excluding Paratyphoid ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paratyphoid Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Measles, (excluding rubella) ...	174	13	15	35	23	25	61	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	
Whooping Cough ...	91	11	8	20	13	14	24	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	}	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Acute Primary																	
Acute Influenza																	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	2	...	...
Malaria—	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Contracted in this C'try																	
Abroad ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease notifi- able in district, e.g.—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
TOTALS ...	332	28	27	56	40	43	114	9	2	9	4	...	...	...	47	...	...

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and were later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious, and were removed from the register.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

332 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year.

CASES NOTIFIED.

	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938
Smallpox...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	38	23	67	47	34	36	20	48	74	64
Diphtheria & Mem. Croup	16	9	26	12	23	27	36	61	87	37
Typhoid Fever ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	...	25	...	...	1
Paratyphoid ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	4	2	7	8	5	9	6	2	10	6
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	1	2	...	2	4	5
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	Nil	2	1	2	1	5	10	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	2	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	1	Nil	1	...	1	1	...	3	...
ACUTE PRIMARY PNEUMONIA INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA }	2	7	16	30	27	6	26	45	21	27
Anthrax ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Encephal Leth. ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ...	Nil	1	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding rubella)	174	199	71	369	185	323	30	370	2	...
Whooping Cough ...	91	71	38	111	69	35	84	122	1	...
Dysentery ...	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ...	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	332	316	229	581	348	441	233	661	202	140

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL

	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938
Smallpox...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	12	11	42	13	19	16	13	28	50	52
*Diphtheria ...	20	16	36	17	23	21	38	60	103	49
Typhoid Fever ...	Nil									
Para-typhoid Fever ...	1	...	...	1	1	...	27	...	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	Nil	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	2
Erysipelas ...	2	...	2	4	2	4	2	...	4	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	...	2	1	2	2	4	10	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Measles ...	4	7	1	...	1	1	...	5	...	...
Encephal Leth. ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ...	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia ...	1	2	...	2	...	1	2	9	...	3
Whooping Cough ...	Nil	3	2	1	2	1	2	...	...	...
Anthrax ...	Nil	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ...	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	47	44	87	40	52	49	89	114	158	109

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious disease and were removed from the register.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1947 (Local Register).

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1
10	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	...
15	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...
25	...	...	1	3	2	1	1	...
35	...	...	3	1	1	2	1	...
45	...	...	4	2	...	...	1	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
65 and upwards	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
TOTALS	15	14	4	3	5	5	2	1
	<u>29</u>		<u>7</u>		<u>10</u>		<u>3</u>	

Death rate from Tuberculosis Respiratory System per 1000=0.53.

The rate of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths (100 per cent. notified during the year).

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

No action has been taken or necessary in respect of persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, employed in the Milk Trade, or for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

7.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The whole of this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council; there was one case notified during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1947 for the Urban District of Litherland in the County of Lancaster.

PART I OF THE ACT.**1.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	14	22	1	...	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	45	70	2	...	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	4	6	...	...	3
TOTAL		63	98	3	...	

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	3	3				4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6						6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	9	9				8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	9				1		9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	8	8				10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11						11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	9	9				12
TOTAL	60	29	29		1		60

PART VIII OF THE ACT.
OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110			Section 111			M/c line No. (9)
		No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of workin unwhole- some premises (6)	N'tices served (7)	Prose- cutions (8)	
Wearing { Making, etc.	13	2	...	...	...	...	...	13
apparel { Cleaning and washing ...	14							14
TOTAL	70	2	...	...	...	...	...	70

I again wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Harrison, for his valued assistance, and to tender my thanks to the various members of the Council for considering advice given by me.

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. W. CUNNINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Urban District Council of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Sanitary Inspector. 1947.

9th December, 1947.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work executed in the Health Department during the year ending 31st December, 1947, together with the particulars of the nuisances abated and improvements effected thereby.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT, NOTICES SERVED, Etc.

During the year 4,926 inspections and re-inspections were made in reference to complaints and housing.

It was necessary in numerous instances, however, to interview and write to the persons concerned, drawing their attention to notices which had not received prompt attention.

There were 2,349 Preliminary Notices and letters, etc., referring to nuisances and general dilapidations served, and in due course complied with.

No Abatement Notices were served during the year, the work having been complied with before notice was served.

Difficulties owing to shortage of building materials are being experienced, which cause considerable delay in the execution of repairs.

INSPECTION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY.—The food exposed for sale in the district has been inspected from time to time. Meat shops and food preparing places are inspected periodically. Any animals slaughtered in the district are examined.

A shopkeeper was warned for placing vegetables on the pavement in front of the shop, risking soiling by dogs.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There is one "private" slaughter-house within the district; three goats and one pig were slaughtered and inspected in the Urban District during the year.

INSPECTION OF MEAT:—

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption:—6 cwts.
0 qrs. 4 lbs.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Number of cowkeepers on register, 1; number of milk shops (other than cowkeepers), 6; 18 visits were made during the year. On the whole a fairly high standard of cleanliness is maintained, and the health of the cattle is satisfactory.

Nine supplementary licences were issued to retail:—

- (1) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk (eight).
- (2) "Pasteurised" Milk (one).

MILK SAMPLES.—Ten samples were taken for the discovery of Tuberculosis among cattle: all samples were reported "negative" to the biological test. Nineteen samples of milk were also taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; all samples were reported genuine.

There are approximately 27 cows kept in the district.

One milk vendor was warned for throwing broken empty milk bottles on grass verge. One shopkeeper was warned for blowing up balloons by mouth.

FISH FRYING SHOPS AND WET FISH SHOPS.—Twenty-one visits were paid to fish frying shops and wet fish shops, which were maintained in a generally satisfactory condition.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Visits have been made where black smoke and grit have been excessive; interviews between engineers and stokers have taken place and advice given. One firm has fixed a grit arrester, at an approximate cost of £2,500, resulting in the removal of approximately 2 cwts. of grit every twenty-four hours.

ASHPITS TO BIN SYSTEM—The approximate number of inmovable ashbins at present in use in the district is 5,791. There were no conversions during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—Fifty houses were disinfested during the year by means of spraying with Zaldecide and D.D.T., and sulphur candles. Clothing and bedding were taken to the Council's steam Disinfector. The whole of this work is carried out by the Council's workmen.

One hundred and forty-one houses were disinfested for cockroaches, fleas, ants, flies, moths, silver fish, bees and wood lice. They were treated with Zaldecide and D.D.T. successfully. Snails in the back passages were treated with salt. Gammexane powder has also been used with good results.

Three dead dogs and three dead cats were removed during the year.

The tip at Brook Vale has been treated for flies three times during the year. Two food preparation places were treated for cockroaches and silver fish.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT (THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943).—This work has been carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Food's Direction, under the Infestation Order, 1943.

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT (THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943).—The County Council have delegated their powers under the Act to the Local Authority; one operative is employed on Rodent Control, with assistance from the Engineer's Department when engaged on sewers.

PRIVATE DWELLINGS.—During the year 109 complaints of rat infestation and 310 of mice infestation were received and dealt with. The treatment carried out resulted in the destruction of approximately 468 rats and 2,259 mice; advice was also given as to the storage of food.

BUSINESS PREMISES.—During the year 13 complaints of rat infestation and 5 of mice infestation were received and treated in accordance with the Ministry's instructions. One rat infestation of a major degree was reduced to a minor degree, and after further treatment was cleared. The estimated kill after the above treatment was 157 rats and 223 mice.

COUNCIL PROPERTY.—The treatment of rat infestation on Council Property included the Salvage Depot and other buildings, also the tip, resulting in the destruction of approximately 402 rats.

The allotments were also treated.

SEWERS.—Two sewer treatments were carried out during the year, the first in March and the second in September. An Inspector of the Ministry visited the district whilst treatment was in progress and satisfied himself that the work was being carried out in accordance with the Ministry's instructions, thus enabling the Local Authority to receive assistance from the Ministry.

The estimated kill after the first treatment was 108 rats, and after the second treatment 72 rats.

A summary of the complaints and destruction of rodents is as follows:—

	...	Complaints.		Destruction (approx.)	
		Rats.	Mice.	Rats.	Mice.
Private Dwellings	...	109	310	...	468
Business Premises	...	13	5	...	157
Council Property and Allotments	...	—	—	...	402
Sewers	...	—	—	...	180
		—	—	—	—
	Totals	122	315	1207	2482

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.—There is no recognised camping site in the district, but caravan dwellers will persist in drawing in on to the waste land in the district, in particular the land between Hawthorne Road and Orrell Road. The Caravan dwellers have been visited regularly in company with the Police, who have given valuable assistance in keeping them under observation until removed.

SUPERVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Eighty-two visits were paid to houses where Infectious Diseases had occurred, and the necessary enquiries made into each case, also a sanitary survey was made of the premises, notices served where necessary for various defects, and work carried out, and 25 re-visits were paid to ensure that the work was carried out. The schools have been thoroughly disinfected during the year. The head teachers have been notified regarding children attending the schools where infectious disease had occurred, also after disinfection.

The Nursery has also been disinfected after minor infectious disease.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.—Ninety-eight visits and re-visits were made to factories during the year. Repairs to W.C.'s, drains, water supply, floors, ventilation and rain-water pipes, have been carried out during the year. The larger factories find employment for approximately 3,162 persons.

OUTWORKERS.—Visits were made to premises where out-workers were engaged; the premises were found to be satisfactory.

SALVAGE.

WASTE FOOD.—During the year 47 tons 1 cwt. 2 qrs. of food were collected and disposed of to pig dealers.

WASTE PAPER.—During the year 53 tons 12 cwts. 3 qrs. of waste paper were baled and collected for pulping.

MISCELLANEOUS.—During the year approximately 20 tons of Metal, Rags, Sacking, Bones and Rubber were collected and disposed of.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT.

Number of inspections and re-inspections (complaints and housing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4926
Number of visits and re-visits to factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Number of visits to bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of visits to cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Number of preliminary notices served and letters, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2349
Number of visits to offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Samples of milk taken under Foods and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Samples of medicinal paraffin submitted for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cases of infectious disease visited and reported upon	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Number of houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Number of verminous houses disinfested for bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Number of verminous houses disinfested for other insects, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Number of visits to fish frying shops and wet fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of visits to butchers' shops and food preparing places	...	...	...	...	...	...	269
Number of visits to slaughter-house	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of visits to schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of visits to stable premises and garages	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of visits re Diphtheria Immunization	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of visits to Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Rent books inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND
ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drains tested, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	288
Defective w.c. cisterns, pans, traps, water supply, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	468
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	23
Defective water supply to houses, etc., new taps, burst pipes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	417
Defective floors in dwelling houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	127
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	26
New ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	303
Insanitary yard surfaces	...	...	...	...	...	89
Walls and chimneys pointed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	410
Defective eaves, gutters, r.w. pipes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	254
New back boilers, storage cisterns and cylinders provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	60
Defective skirting boards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	46
Defective plasterwork and limewashing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	350
Repairs to window sashes and frames, and lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	251
Leaky roofs (dwelling houses), etc.	...	...	...	...	...	300
New doors and repairs to doors	...	...	...	...	...	205
Animals and Fowls kept to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective wash boilers and structures	...	...	...	...	...	21
New sinks or other sanitary fittings	...	...	...	...	...	124
Defective fire ranges, jambs, and flues	...	...	...	...	...	164
Defective drainer boards	...	...	...	...	...	15

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ineffective drainage of floors	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other defects (roofs, windows, gutters, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	9

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. HARRISON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

